

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00583 231706Z

50

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 /068 W

----- 039260

O R 231430Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4659

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SJLAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0583

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SF, UN, WA, US

SUBJ: SUGGESTIONS FOR HANDLING VORSTER'S NAMIBIA SPEECH IN UN

REF: (A) USUN 1693 (NOTAL; (B) CAPE TOWN 577

1. IN REF (A) WE ANALYZED THE VORSTER SPEECH IN TERMS OF
PREVIOUS SAG STATEMENTS AND ACTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE FUTURE
OF NAMIBIA. THIS MESSAGE SUGGESTS HOW THE SPEECH MIGHT BE HANDLED
IN THE UN CONTEXT.

2. FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT, BELIEVE IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO AVOID
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00583 231706Z

CATEGORIZING VORSTER SPEECH AS EITHER FORTHCOMING OR UNRESPONSIVE.

OUR MAIN OBJECTIVE IS TO MAINTAIN STEADY, DISCREET PRESSURE ON SAG TO MOVE FROM GENERAL STATEMENTS OF PURPOSE TO SPECIFIC IMPLEMENTARY ACTION. IT IS THIS ACTION RATHER THAN WORDS WHICH CAN RELIEVE THE PRESSURES ON SA (AND US) FROM THE UN AND OAU. TO PRESENT SPEECH IN TOO FAVORABLE A LIGHT COULD GIVE SAG WRONG SIGNAL AND DELAY PROCESS. (THERE ARE ALREADY SIGNS THAT VORSTER AND ASSOCIATES BELIEVE ATTITUDE OF WESTERN COUNTRIES IS CHANGING AND TIME IS ON THEIR SIDE.) TO PUBLICLY DISMISS THE SPEECH AS UNRESPONSIVE WOULD NOT ONLY PLAY INTO HANDS OF EXTREMIST AFRICANS WHO DEMANDS SANCTIONS NOW BUT COULD ALSO INHIBIT VORSTER'S WILLINGNESS TO PROCEED WITH IMPLEMENTING MEASURES. WE CANNOT BE SURE ABOUT VORSTER'S INTENTIONS TO PUSH SUCH ISSUES AS REDUCTION OF DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES, TERMINATION OF SWA'S DIRECT REPRESENTATION IN SOUTH AFRICA'S PARLIAMENT, AND ACCELERATION OF THE TIMETABLE FOR THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE, BUT WE SHOULD AVOID RESPONSES WHICH WOULD DISCOURAGE SUCH ACTIONS WHILE MAKING CLEAR AT THE SAME TIME THAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR MEANINGFUL FOLLOWUP.

3. THIS MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED BY RESPONDING TO VORSTER'S SPEECH ALONG THESE LINES:

A. ACKNOWLEDGE THAT IT IS A USEFUL, ALTHOUGH VERY GENERAL, RESTATEMENT OF SAG INTENTIONS ON NAMIBIA;

B. NOTE THAT WHILE SOME ELEMENTS OF THE SAG POSITION RESPOND TO THE DESIRES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY (E.G., SEPARATE STATUS FOR NAMIBIA, PROMOTION OF HUMAN DIGNITY AND RIGHTS OF ALL PEOPLES, ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION), THERE IS A MARKED ABSENCE OF EXPLANATION ON MECHANICS AND TIMETABLE (INCLUDING THE ROLE OF THE UN IN THE PROCESS) WITHOUT WHICH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY CANNOT JUDGE PROGRESS AND THEREFORE CANNOT BE SATISFIED THAT THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA WILL BE ABLE TO EXERCISE A DEMOCRATIC CHOICE IN THE NEAR FUTURE;

C. PICK UP THE OFFER TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN SWA WITH THE UN AND THE OAU (RECOGNIZING THAT THE TERMS OF VORSTER'S OFFER ARE TOO RESTRICTIVE AND NEED TO BE MODIFIED--SEE PARA 3 BELOW) AND URGE HIM TO BE FORTHCOMING WITH SPECIFICS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CAPE T 00583 231706Z

IN THESE TALKS;

D. RECOMMEND THAT AN APPROPRIATE PERIOD OF TIME BE ALLOWED FOR THE SAG TO BE MORE SPECIFIC ABOUT ITS INTENTIONS AND TO DISCUSS THIS ASPECT WITH UN AND OAU REPRESENTATIVES.

4. WITH RESPECT TO POINTS (C) AND (D), VORSTER TALKED IN TERMS OF DISCUSSING "PREGRESS OF THE PEOPLES" AND "PROGRESS IN THE

PROCESS OF SELF-DEVELOPMENT" RATHER THAN THE PROCESS OF SELF-DETERMINATION. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE WITH HIM IN SOUTH AFRICA. THIS MAY BE TOO RESTRICTIVE TO OBTAIN UN OR OAU ACCEPTANCE. AS A PRESSURE POINT, WE THINK IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE UN OR OAU WERE TO TAKE HIM UP ON THE GENERAL OFFER, ADAPTING THE TERMS OF REFERENCE TO COVER TALKS WITH VORSTER OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE IN SWA OR ELSEWHERE ON BROADER TERMS. PRESSURE THROUGH THIS KIND OF DISCUSSION, COMBINED WITH OTHER PRESSURES BEARING DOWN ON SAG FROM OTHER QUARTERS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, MIGHT HELP TO CONVINCE VORSTER OF THE NEED TO ACCELERATE THE PACE IN NAMIBIA, AS HE HAS DONE IN RHODESIA.

5. WITH RESPECT TO RELEASE OF TRIPARTITE NOTE, WE BELIEVE (WITHOUT KNOWING ALL THE FACTORS AT PLAY IN NEW YORK) THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER NOT TO RELEASE THE TEXT IN ADVANCE OF THE UNSC SESSION BUT TO HAVE IT COME OUT AS PART OF THE DELIBERATIONS, IF THIS PROVES NECESSARY. IN THIS FASHION DEBATE WOULD BE FOCUSED ON UNSC RESOLUTION AND VORSTER'S RESPONSE RATHER THAN ON TRIPARTITE NOTE. IT WOULD HAVE THE ADDED ADVANTAGE OF GIVING THE SOUTH AFRICANS TIME TO RESPOND TO THE NOTE. BRITISH AMBASSADOR BOTTOMLEY NOW ADVISES THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAS TOLD HIM THAT THERE IS TO BE A DELAY IN THE REPLY. WE DO NOT KNOW WHY THE CHANGE IN SIGNALS. PERHAPS IT IS TO SEE FIRST THE REACTION TO THE VORSTER SPEECH. BOWDLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, NAMIBIA, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CAPET00583
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750182-0115
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750520/aaaaarod.tel
Line Count: 141
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 USUN 1693, 75 CAPE TOWN 577
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <22 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUGGESTIONS FOR HANDLING VORSTER'S NAMIBIA SPEECH IN UN
TAGS: PFOR, SF, WA, US, UN, (VORSTER, BALTHAZAR JOHANNES)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006